

GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

August 25, 2006

8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

GTSAC MEMBERS

Robert Morris, Chair
Michael Prince
Heather Hockanson
Ron Wilson
F/Lt. Thad Peterson
John Friend
Steven Puuri
Chief David Stamm

REPRESENTING

Office of the Governor
Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
for Linda Scarpetta, Department of Community Health (MDCH)
Department of State (DOS)
Department of State Police (MSP)
Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Local Representative – County Road Commission Association
Local Representative – Michigan Association of Chief's of Police

STAFF

Sandy Eyre

GTSAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Sheriff Al Byam
Pamela Hall
Dwight Sinila

Local Representative – Michigan Sheriff's Association
Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)
Department of Education (MDE)

ACTION TEAMS

Gary Bubar
Kim Lariviere
Homer Smith

AAA-Michigan, Young Driver Action Team
MDOT, Elderly Mobility Action Team
MADD-Michigan, Impaired Driving Action Team

GUESTS

Kathy Farnum
Tom Bruff
Anne Readett
Bob Felt
Sandy Liddle
Sgt. Matt Bolger
Cathy Pavick
Lisa Grost
Betty Mercer
Francois Dion
Mike Irwin
Jack Peet
Bob Lariviere
Ramona Putnam
Carol Reagan
Anne Corgan
Lore Corradino
Eric Bombery

REPRESENTING

OHSP
SEMOG
OHSP
MDOT
Office of Financial and Insurance Services
MSP, Executive Division
Michigan Licensed Beverage Association
MDCH/Ped-Bike Action Team
Mercer Consulting Group
Michigan State University
Michigan Center for Truck Safety
AAA-Michigan
AAA-Michigan
MDOS
MDOS
MDOS
SEMCOG
WATS

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Robert Morris. Roll call of GTSAC members and introductions completed.

Public Comment/Announcement Items

No public comment.

Approval of GTSAC June 23, 2006 Minutes Ron Wilson & Thad Peterson

The June 23, 2006, minutes were approved. **Motion made by Ron Wilson to accept the minutes. Motion seconded by F/Lt. Thad Peterson. Motion passed.**

Reports/Updates

➤ **Chair Report – Robert Morris**

Mr. Morris reported on handout, Death Rates on Highways Rises, and Motorcycles Are Blamed. An article in The Detroit News from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in Washington reports traffic fatalities hit their highest level since 1990 last year. Michigan fatalities fell 2.6 percent in 2005. However with Governor Granholm's veto of the motorcycles legislation Michigan could see increases in death and fatalities among motorcycle riders in 2006. During a trip to the UP last week, Mr. Morris observed the U.S. 2 Operation SABRE and is impressed with all the agencies involved. The message is out on U.S. 2, 'Do Not Speed on U. S. 2'.

➤ **Legislative Report – Sgt. Matt Bolger**

Sergeant Bolger highlighted the handout, Summary of Safely Legislative Issues for GTSAC 8/25/06.

GTSAC Commissioner Update

➤ **Community Health – Heather Hockanson for Linda Scarpetta**

Ms. Hockanson reported on the *second* direct observation study done on booster seats. A roll call video has been developed and sent to all law enforcement agencies in the state. An education video is being developed for the general public, hospitals and other agencies as well.

➤ **Education – Dwight Sinila**

No report

➤ **State – Ron Wilson:**

Mr. Wilson presented the Department of State, customer service agenda document, Finding More Ways to Serve You Better, a 14-point plan to further improve customer service in Michigan. On September 5th the SOS will meet with motorcycle industries to move motorcycle safety in Michigan forward. The SOS new license plate design campaign for Michigan is complete. Mr. Wilson presented the new Spectacular Peninsulas Mackinaw Bridge reflective plate now which will be available at the SOS branch offices in January 2007 for an additional five dollars. The new design to replace the old blue plate will be announced shortly.

➤ **State Police – F/Lt. Thad Peterson**

The Field Update e-mail list has been converted to a listserv to automate the distribution of the field services update process. The Traffic Services Section, along with MDOT, has produced a video to answer common questions about the "45 Where Workers Present" speed limit in work zones. Traffic Services Section is currently looking into a more in-depth motor vehicle crash study to find out how to track injuries, and learn more about what precipitates these accidents.

➤ **Transportation – John Friend**

MDOT has concluded a study of pedestrian signals that display the amount of time a person has to cross and will be adopting the signals where they are warranted and securing necessary funding. Speed limit studies on interstates are in the final stages. Raising the speed limit on I-496 will make it a safer interstate. MDOT plans to support and adopt the Highway Safety Plan after a formal check of the plan has been completed. FY06 construction is nearly complete. FY07 construction projects will begin on October 1, 2006. MDOT anticipates FY07 to be another big construction year with the focus being metropolitan areas

➤ **OSA – Pamela Hall**

No report.

➤ **OHSP – Michael Prince -**

An announcement was made that Deborah Sonnenberg will be joining the OHSP staff as the new Executive Secretary, effective September 25 and will join the GTSAC at the October meeting. Thanks to Sandy Eyre for her work as the interim Executive Secretary. OHSP is in the mist of the fall crack down with additional enforcement and national advertising running through September 4th. This year OHSP piloted the use of mobile billboards during daytime hours to help increase public awareness on the statewide crackdown. Oakland County is using the billboard to display the number of local drunk driver arrests in their community. OHSP allocated additional funding to agencies in five counties, Genesee, Kent, Macomb, Oakland and Wayne, that comprise 40 percent of the state's alcohol-related fatalities. Law enforcement agencies will use the funds to patrol for drunk drivers during "happy hour" or early evening, conduct additional night time patrols, purchase equipment and/or organize warrant sweeps. The Wayne Counties "Last Call" project is a success. When conducting warrant sweeps, officers seek out those who have failed to appear in court on previous alcohol-related charges. OHSP is once again at the Michigan State Fair with new back drops and signs to promote safety belt use. Two OHSP

produced communication projects have been recognized with Pinnacle Awards by the Central Michigan Chapter of the Public Relation Society of Michigan. The "Angel" radio PSA for the Operation S.A.B.R.E. project on the Upper Peninsula's U.S. 2 and the Click It or Ticket Campaign.

OHSP is working with a vendor and the Ingham County Sheriff's Office to create a PSA with the young woman who survived the I-96 roll over crash recently. Staff is also working on presenting the young woman with a Saved by the Belt Award at the West Michigan Traffic Safety Committee meeting in October. Nikki Klemmer from our Communications Sections has taped seven traffic safety messages to be announced at all of the U of M home football games this fall. The government accountability office has contacted our office and will be visiting Michigan on October 26-27 to learn about Michigan's elderly mobility programs coordinated by Pat Carrow. Sue Girard-Jackson, at our UP office, assisted in organizing a child safety seat event at a local auto shop this summer. A mother had a 6 month old child in an inadequate car seat. They replaced it with a new convertible seat for her infant. A few days later Ms. Girard-Jackson was contacted by the Delta County Sheriff's Office and advised a family had been involved in a rollover crash and that the infant had received no injuries due to being in a safety seat. It turned out that the seat the infant was in was the brand new seat provided at the clinic earlier that day. A press conference was held on August 25th in the UP and the mother of the infant thanked everyone involved.

➤ **Local Representation – Steven Puuri**

Working on obtaining support from local representation of the federal transportation bill. 2006 project awards are complete. Have requested to be on County Road Commission meeting agenda to inform them what the engineering committee is doing and the progress we are making. Working on the spring agenda of workshops and annual meetings for policy makers and reaching out to local county road associations.

➤ **Local Representation – Chief David Stamm**

Jason Hambel with the Office of Highway Safety Planning has been involved in the skilled officers in on-scene crash investigation training. This involves a law enforcement officers being trained in on-scene investigation to further train other officers. There will be two teams of law enforcement from various agencies in Genesee County comprising crash investigation units that are receiving enhanced training, equipment and overtime funding from a grant through OHSP. A media event is scheduled for September at the Genesee County Courthouse in Flint. MADD, through their impaired driving program for youth completed an impaired driving CD to train local law enforcement, to be disseminated.

➤ **Local Representation – Sheriff Al Byam**

No Report.

Strategic Highway Safety Plan Approval Update – Kathy Farnum/OHSP

The Strategic Highway Safety Plan has been formally approved and the letter has been signed by Governor Granholm. The original planning group met in 2005 to develop this approved plan. OHSP and the Department of Community Health are conducting an assessment on the EMS component and the revised EMS component will be submitted as an update in 2006. The Commission approved the plan to be updated on an annual basis. All Action Team plans are on website site. The Strategic Plan, when updated will be posted to website.

Action Team Reports

➤ **Lane Departure – Tom Bruff, SEMCOG**

The Lane Departure Committee will meet in September to finalize the action plan. The committee recognizes the need to add the EMS component to the lane departure component but would like know what the priority and focus are. We have received input from the trucking side but need more input from our stakeholders. The ITS systems is a beneficial component to lane departure. A Safety Summit session on an overview of the plan, as it relates to lane departure issues and the 2005 traffic safety data presented by MDOT was suggested.

➤ **Senior Mobility – Kim Lariviere**

There is a 29% increase in licensed older drivers and the population is increasing. SOS offers free ID cards to seniors who volunteer to give up their license. A work group is working with the Governors office on a survey and collaborating with SMART, a transportation provider in SE Michigan for alternative transportation projects for seniors. The work group is also collaborating with the Department of Community Health on a conference to be held at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing in November 2006.

➤ **Other Driver Behavior – Thad Peterson**

The Driver Behavior action plan is the least well developed. A restructuring of the existing action team to focus on fatigue issues is required. There are not a lot of well developed resources, terms that need to be defined, and behaviors that need to be addressed. Most of the driver behavior problems are related to fatigue and has become a real health issue in Michigan. There are a number of underlying issues that cause fatigue and a whole host of health problems.

➤ **TRCC Records – Michael Prince**

The Section 408 application has been completed and sent to NHTSA and waiting for formal approval. Many more states applied for this funding than was anticipated which may impact the amount of funding we receive from this grant. Michigan will receive only about \$1 million. The Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC) will move forward when the grant approval is received. There will be a meeting of the full TRCC on Thursday, September 7, 2006 at the MDOT Secondary Center. Among the agenda items will be a National Traffic Records Update, a follow-up on the Traffic Records Assessment and a discussion on emerging data security issues and an Act 26 update.

Presentations

➤ **Michigan Department of State Traffic Safety Agenda – Anne Corgan, Department of State**

Anne Corgan reported on the traffic safety related program areas within the Department of State. Monthly traffic safety meetings have been established with these areas. Participants include bureau and division directors, and section supervisors. All 12 action plans the Commission approved are being looked at and both short and long term goals have been identified. In the senior mobility area, the Department is taking the lead looking at best practices for establishing a medical advisory board. We are looking at medical and vision standards and driver assessment tools for all driver populations. We are also looking at expanding our presence on our website and at partnership possibilities with AAA and other outside agencies that have been identified in the action plan.

Young driver education legislation passed in the senate and we are looking for it to move on to the house in September. A Motor Cycle Advisory Committee will be launched on September 5, 2006 - anyone interested in assisting is asked to contact Anne Corgan or Carol Reagan, the Department's Traffic Safety Specialist.

Mr. Morris suggested OHSP send an email to all GTSAC Action Team Chairs, regarding 2007 Traffic Safety Summit workshop topics to incorporate in the agenda.

GTSAC Administrative Items

Next Meeting is October 27, 2006, in the Presentation Room. Adjourn.